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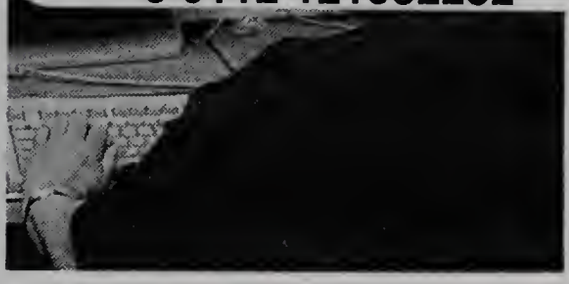

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Senior Community Service Employment Program

ILLINOIS
Department
on Aging

George H. Ryan
Governor

Margo E. Schreiber
Director

Are you 55 or older and looking for a job?

If you are like many older Americans who would like to return to the work force, you should know about the Senior Community Service Employment Program (SCSEP).

What is SCSEP?

The Senior Community Service Employment Program, sponsored by the Illinois Department on Aging, is a federally funded employment program designed to assist the mature worker (age 55+) in re-entering the job market. It operates under a grant from the U.S. Department of Labor under Title V of the Older Americans Act.

How does the program work?

In Illinois, the program is administered jointly by the Illinois Department on Aging through 12 Area Agencies on Aging and the 8 National contractors. (Both groups are listed on the back of the brochure.) The program places eligible individuals, usually for 20 hours a week at minimum wage, in non-profit agencies or community service where they receive:

- Skill acquisition or skill enhancement opportunities;
- Personal and employment-related counseling; and
- Assistance in the transition to unsubsidized employment, where feasible.

What are the goals of the program?

- To provide retraining and employment opportunities to older workers.
- To offer services to the community as a whole by placing the program participants in community service agencies.
- To serve as an advocate for all older workers seeking employment.
- To serve as a liaison between employers seeking to hire older employees and the older worker.

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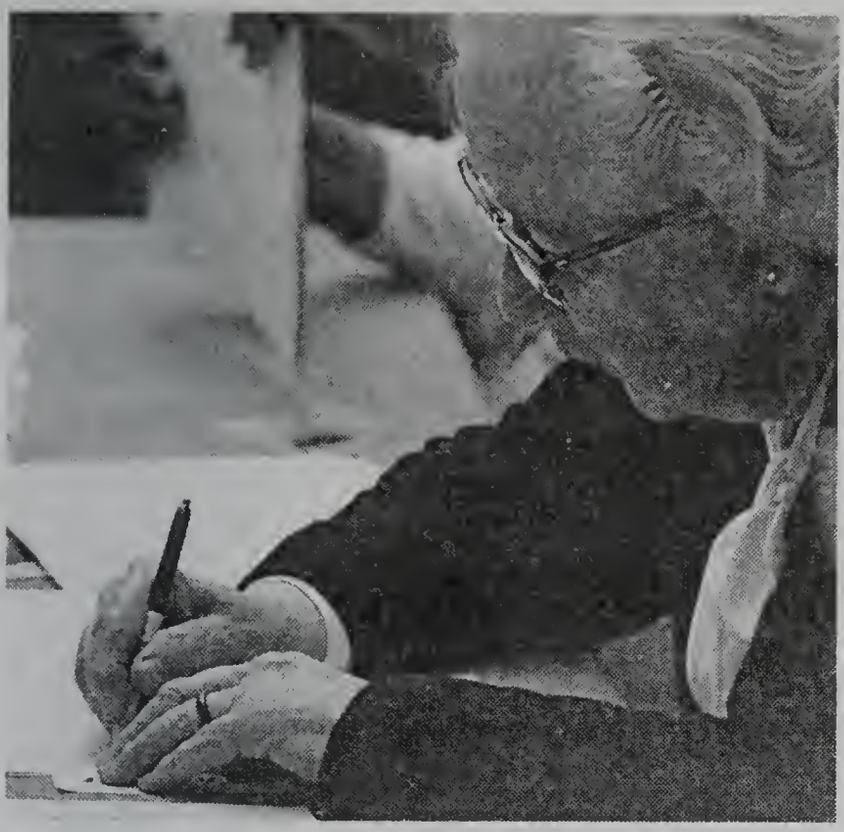
Types of community services:

The program creates temporary positions that contribute to the general welfare of the community. Typically SCSEP clients are offered positions in:

- schools;
- hospitals;
- senior citizen centers;
- literacy instruction;
- nutrition programs;
- beautification projects;
- conservation projects;
- restoration projects;
- day care centers; and
- many other opportunities



Who is eligible?

Anyone who is 55 years of age or older, has a limited income (a figure set by the U.S. Department of Labor at not more than 125% of the poverty level) and is capable of performing tasks involved in the proposed community service assignment is eligible to be enrolled in the program.

What benefits are offered?

- Annual physical exam;
- Job-related counseling;
- Paid work experience;

also (optional)

- Paid personal leave;
- Paid holidays; and
- Paid vacation.

For more information or to apply . . .

Call the Illinois Department on Aging's
Senior HelpLine:
1-800-252-8966 (voice & TTY)

Or contact an organization near you:

Northwestern Illinois Area Agency on Aging (AAA), Rockford, 815-226-4901

Northeastern Illinois AAA, Kankakee, 815-939-0727; or West Chicago, 1-800-528-2000

Western Illinois AAA, Rock Island, 1-800-322-1051

Central Illinois AAA, Peoria, 309-674-2071

East Central Illinois AAA, Bloomington, 1-800-888-4456

West Central Illinois AAA, Quincy, 1-800-252-9027

Project LIFE AAA, Springfield, 1-800-252-9027

Southwestern Illinois AAA, Belleville, 1-800-326-3221

Midland AAA, Centralia, 618-532-1853

Southeastern Illinois AAA, Albion, 1-800-635-8544

Egyptian AAA, Carterville, 618-985-8311

Chicago Department on Aging, 312-744-4016, 312-744-6777 (TDD)

Suburban AAA, Oak Park, 708-383-0258

Shawnee Development Council, Karnak, 618-634-2201

Operation Able, Chicago, 312-580-0371

National Contractors:

American Association of Retired Persons (AARP) Foundation

National Urban League

Green Thumb, Inc.

U.S. Forest Service

National Senior Citizens Education and Research Center

National Caucus and Center on Black Aged, Inc.

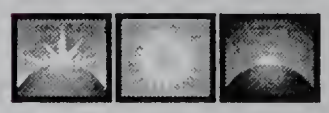
National Asian Pacific Center on Aging

National Association for Hispanic Elderly

Of course, anyone looking for work can also contact the local job service or Illinois Employment Training Center to assist in their employment search.

Don't get discouraged!

If you don't find a job right away, keep looking. There is a job for you somewhere. Be diligent and patient in you efforts.



ILLINOIS
Department on Aging

421 East Capitol Ave., #100
Springfield, IL 62701
FAX: (217) 785-4477

World Wide Web: http://www.state.il.us/aging/

The Illinois Department on Aging does not discriminate in admission to programs or treatment of employment in programs or activities in compliance with appropriate State and Federal statutes. If you feel you have been discriminated against, call the Senior HelpLine at 1-800-252-8966 (voice and TTY).

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